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Brompton's Revolving Door



Marie Sycola/Bullet

President Judy Hamble in her office in George Washington Hall on Tuesday, Feb. 23. She resigned on Friday, Feb. 19.

By BRYNN BOYER
Staff Writer

President Judy Hamble's unexpected departure as president of the University of Mary Washington in June leaves the institution with questions of who will take over leadership.

On Friday, Feb. 19, Hamble said she would be stepping down as of June 30, 2010, only two years into her five-year contract as president.

Hamble, the first female leader and eighth president of UMW, has been at the helm since July 1, 2008, after replacing William Frawley.

Now, the Board of Visitors has the task of looking for a new president.

In a UMW press release sent out on Friday, Hamble said she was leaving to "pursue other interests in higher education."

Hamble spoke with *The Bullet* yesterday, but said that she would not dis-

cuss the conditions of her departure. "I cannot speak on why I am leaving or what I am going to do after," she said.

The announcement came after the BOV met in closed session for several hours on Friday.

Natalie Sauer, rector of the BOV, said in the release, "On behalf of the Board of Visitors, I want to thank President Hamble for her dedicated service to the University."

"She began the important process of charting the University's future course, and she will be remembered for leading the institution

through a time of transition," Sauer said.

Judy Hamble is the third president in four years at the university.

William Frawley, who became president in July 2006 after long-time

President Bill Anderson retired, was fired in April 2007.

Executive Vice President Rick Hurley

took over as

acting president from 2007 to 2008 during the search for Frawley's replacement.

On Tuesday, Feb. 23, the BOV an-

nounced that Hurley had agreed to postpone his retirement and remain in his current position as executive vice president and chief financial officer.

"I thought about the fact that I'm the longest serving executive at the institution," Hurley said. "I have all the institutional knowledge of how things work."

Hurley said he did not know Hamble's reasons for leaving or who would fill the role of interim president.

Before coming to UMW, Hamble was chancellor of Pennsylvania's 14-campus public university system.

Sauer said the BOV will discuss a plan to provide new leadership at the top level of the university soon.

"We need to be deliberate and thoughtful in our actions," Sauer said.

—Bullet staff contributed to this report.

UMW Community Reacts to Hamble's Resignation

"It's a very regrettable situation. I feel bad for her and I feel bad for the university."

—Bill Anderson, former UMW president

"I wasn't ready to leave Mary Washington. Hamble is the sole reason that I retired. I do hope that the damage the university has experienced they'll be able to recover from and move forward."

—Bernie Chirico, former UMW dean of students

"I honestly don't think anything significant will change for students."

—Jay Harper, provost

In reference to UMW's three presidents in four years:

"It has to leave questions in people's minds: is there an issue here? It's unusual and it's unfortunate."

—Rick Hurley, executive vice president

On Hamble's lasting legacy:

"I think that we're all still getting to know her... Maybe none of us can really say we've gotten to know President Hamble."

—Mary Rigsby, president of Faculty Senate

—Compiled by staff reports.

In Her Words

In an interview with the Bullet in her office yesterday afternoon, President Judy Hamble addressed her presidency, resignation and recent events.

She began with one important caveat:

I cannot speak on why I am leaving or what I am going to do after.

Were you asked to resign?

No, absolutely not.

Were there any health problems that played a role in the last 18 months or your resignation?

Everyone knows about my surgery that I had in December. I had 17 abdominal hernias that were a result of a surgery I had had 18 years earlier. I was very sick then. I won't speak to that issue as it relates to my resignation.

Do you have any plans for your final three months here?

I will continue to do my job as I have been doing. I am what is called a lame duck. Once people know that you are leaving, they treat you as though you are already gone, but as far as I am concerned, as far as the Board of Visitors is concerned, I am the president until June 30.

Hamble explained that she will continue with the Strategic Plan, national accreditation and budget issues. She then discussed the community's reaction to some of these decisions.

Have I made everyone happy? No. But, everyone hasn't made me happy either. That is not what administration is about. Have I been as visible as all the students would like? No, but I have also traveled to meet with alumni and donors more in the 18 months than past presidents have in six or seven years combined; all this in 18 months. And, if it sounds like I am bragging, I am not. I am really just accounting for my behavior, and I believe in accountability. People are going to say what they are going to say and everyone is entitled to his or her opinion.

Some people think you did not do an adequate job raising funds for the university. What do you think?

I came in toward the end of the Capital Campaign. We finished the Capital Campaign six months prior to its deadline. We were over \$3 million ahead of our goal. I traveled on 27 trips to meet with alumni and donors in my first year, which is an unprecedented amount of travel for a new president. I think most people don't know what was done.

It was recently reported that a complaint was made to the Division of State Internal Audit about bookshelves you purchased for \$28,000. What is your response to this?

The bookshelves were purchased not for me, but for the president's residence. It was part of the ongoing upkeep and repair of Brompton. You can't rush out to Wal-Mart and buy bookshelves that you just sit in there. The bookcases needed to be both constructed to fit the space and they needed to be appropriately styled to accommodate the nature of the home. One other important thing is that the Board of Visitors did not need to approve that purchase. It went through the appropriate procurement process.

What were the goals for your recent trip to Egypt?

This is part of the University President's Travel Club, and it is a program that has been in place for more than a decade. I didn't start it. In fact, I didn't travel on

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Samantha Daniel/Bullet

President Hamble was sworn in as the eighth president of Mary Washington on April 3, 2009 at an inauguration ceremony. The Board of Visitors has not announced when the search for a president to replace Hamble will commence. The story on the presidential search is on page 2.

The Bullet spoke with students about Hamble's unexpected resignation:

"Will we miss her? I can't give a comment considering she's such a stranger to the students."

--senior Heather Greider

"I don't really have strong feelings either way about Hamble leaving. She seemed like she wasn't really here in the first place."

--junior Emily Nord

"Unfortunately, President Judy Hamble's resignation was just like her presence: cold, impersonal, and forgettable. I wish her good luck in her pursuit of 'other interests in higher education' and wish that I could say she will be missed but that would imply we've met."

--sophomore Sarah Elizabeth Manuel

"I think it's a little odd that she comes in with such big ideas and plans, then leaves after, what? A year?"

--junior Ian Huff

"I just feel like students should have more information about the reasons. We can see through the wording in the announcement about it and the university should respect the students enough to provide more information."

--junior Corrie Shellnut

--Eric Steigleder compiled this report.

Hamble Steps Down Mid-Contract



Marie Sicola/Bullet

Brompton, the UMW president's home. According to her contract, Hamble must vacate Brompton after her resignation.

By ANNE ELDER AND ERIC STEIGLEDER

Staff Writer

Two years ago, President Judy Hamble signed a five-year contract with the Board of Visitors and the University of Mary Washington Foundation, guaranteeing a spacious mansion, an ample car allowance and numerous other executive benefits.

However, according to the contract, "if the Dr. Hamble resigns from the presidency she shall not be entitled to any further compensation or benefits as president."

Hamble's compensation includes an annual base salary of \$330,000, which may be increased by the BOV but cannot be decreased. She also receives four weeks of paid vacation, 10 days of which may be carried over on an annual basis.

Brompton, the home of the president, was acquired by UMW in 1946 and has been home to the president since 1948. It is also expected to "be available, and shall be used for Uni-

versity-related business and entertainment on a regular and continuing basis," according to the contract.

Division of State Internal Audit recently reported that Hamble purchased bookshelves for 28,000 dollars, Hamble said the new bookshelves were added to maintain the integrity of the historic home.

"[The bookshelves were] constructed for the space [and] styled for the home," Hamble said.

Hamble is expected to vacate Brompton within 30 days after her resignation takes effect.

In addition to her benefits, Hamble also receives substantial power to hire

and fire faculty.

Hamble's notable hires during her tenure at UMW included Provost Jay

Harper, Vice

President of

Student Affairs

and Dean of

Students Doug

Searcy, Vice

President for

Advancement

and University

Relations Torre

Meringolo, and

Director of

Communications George

Farrar.

In her contract, it states

that for every year Hamble serves as

Courtesy of umw.edu

president, the Foundation will

place \$25,000 in a fund within the

Internal Revenue Code 457(f). These de-

posits are tax exempt and accrue 5

percent interest. However, in the case

of termination or voluntary resignation, the president cannot collect any of the money.

Hamble also was appointed as a tenured professor of communication, as per the terms of her contract, although she has not taught a class during her tenure as president.

However, this is not uncommon for college presidents, according to Teresa Kennedy, chair of the Department of English, linguistics and communication.

As part of her contractual duties as president, Hamble was expected to travel to visit alumni and donors to acquire funds for the university.

According to Hamble, the 27 trips she has made in the past 18 months goes beyond the number of trips former presidents have made.

When asked to evaluate her tenure as president, Hamble was proud of her administration.

"I think I did a more than adequate job," she said.

Help Wanted: New President

By ANNE ELDER
Staff Writer

Due to President Hamble's resignation last Friday, the Board of Visitors now faces the challenge of finding a new president for the University of Mary Washington.

BOV Rector Nanalou Sauder is unsure of the route they will take to find a president to follow Hamble.

"There is a lot of sentiment for doing something a little different," Sauder said. "So far I've had lots of communications, and they've been thoughtful. Everybody is listening to take a broad view of how we'll go about this."

Executive Vice President Rick Hurley emphasized that the new president should know the dynamics of the university.

"It needs to be someone closely associated with the university," Hurley said. "Each institution has its own culture. The better someone understands that culture, the easier this task will be."

Greenwood/Asher and Associates, a consulting group, assisted the last presidential search in 2007, after President Frawley was terminated. The cost of the consulting firm was \$92,500 plus travel and expenses, as reported by the Bullet in September 2007.

According to Hurley, the cost of a presidential search ranges from \$100,000 to \$150,000, depending on travel costs for various candidates. This money comes from institutional funds.

Janet Greenwood, president and CEO of Greenwood/Asher and Associates said Hamble's resignation came to her unexpectedly.

"That is obviously fast," Greenwood said. "I was surprised she was departing that quickly."

When Hamble was hired in 2008, the method was much more confidential than the previous search when former

President William Frawley was hired.

The search for Hamble did not include the forums and student input like when Frawley was hired. Instead, the BOV "work[ed] behind closed doors with Greenwood and Associates and a Presidential Search Advisory Committee," as reported by the Bullet in September 2007.

Former BOV Rector William Poole attributes these differences to the circumstances when the presidents were respectively hired.

Martin Wilder, dean of enrollment and student services, said each method has advantages and disadvantages.

"Oftentimes [the closed search] is done if you want a candidate pool of people serving in high capacities," he said. "You might attract a stronger applicant pool."

Sauder said the BOV has not yet had a chance to evaluate the current situation.

Although she said the board has not

going around," Sauder said.

Junior Erin Burke thinks the search method needs to change.

"I think they should use a new search committee or a new search technique," Burke said. "We should have a president who is the face of UMW, present to the student body, approachable and who can also fulfill the duties that come with the job."

Hurley hopes the next president will exemplify the characteristics of the former two presidents.

"It sounds cliché, but we need to find someone with the qualities that both Frawley and Hamble brought to the position," Hurley said.

—Ryan Marr contributed to this report.

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the trip last year that went to South Africa because I was having surgery. It takes alumni and other special guests who pay. And, we spend concentrated amounts of time with individuals on the trip, many of whom are our major donors.

Do you feel that the goals you had on that trip were accomplished?

We laid a great foundation. We won't know for a few months whether all of those goals were accomplished.

Did you feel that you were justifiably with your actions on the safety walk in September?

Absolutely. I participated personally because students expressed their unhappiness to me directly about previous safety walks and the fact that our blue-light system had not functioned as it was supposed to. I was determined to find out what the problem was because I am very much a problem-solution person. There is a problem, and we want to fix it.

Somewhere in the chain of command, someone neglected to tell the campus police that there was a safety walk and there was going to be a test of the blue-light system. It is unfortunate that this happened, but it is not my responsibility to tell every member of the university staff. That is why you have a chain of command. [The campus police] thought it was a real test. The cue was supposed to be when I told them that Judy Hamble is calling, which is what I did. That was supposed to be the signal. And you will recall from the time that we did the test that the blue-light system did not work effectively. They had difficulty identifying exactly where we were, what location we were at, and it took

a considerable amount of time to get there. My sole purpose was the concern for the safety of the students and campus. I believe that our campus police are very concerned about the issue as well. We are all concerned about campus safety. There are a lot of people who work here, and it was an oversight.

Do you think this event impacted your tenure?

It has nothing to do with my resigning, absolutely not. It has impacted me personally because I have gotten a lot of unnecessary negative publicity about it and continue to get it. Reasonable people understand why I did the test; I did it in my professional capacity as president. It is just one more issue that people who do not like me use to beat me up about. I am used to it.

What about the denial of phone records requested by the Bullet under the Freedom of Information Act related to the safety walk?

Our legal council advised us that ultimately we have to do what our legal council tells us to do. Those records were all gathered by our campus police, and they are under certain obligations based on state law. Their records are subject to a broader legal set of parameters. The attorney general's office, which is the source of our legal council, said we don't have the right to turn these things over. It is not Judy Hamble denying these. It is not Rick Hurley denying these. It is not even our campus police denying these.

Was there a criminal investigation due to this incident?

There was no crime committed and there has been no criminal investigation.

How do you expect the university to follow through with the Strategic Plan in your absence?

The course is laid out. If the next leader wants to step in and follow that course, it is achievable. It is a road map that includes the strategic, tactical and financial goals. As of now, the Board has been very clear that they are going to stay on course. It will take strong leadership to do this. I say this because, one of the major ways to plan is to internally reallocate resources. That doesn't make you popular. I have done some of that already and the new president will have to do more of that. In the face of not getting new money from the state, it is the only way to get it done.

How do you feel about leaving without seeing this plan come through?

Obviously, that is a personal choice I had to make. For the personal reasons that are driving me to resign, that is a higher priority right now.

What has been your favorite part of working here at UMW?

It is the sense of community here that exists, a community of scholars. The thing that I appreciate the most about this institution is the extent to which our faculty extend themselves personally and professionally to work with our students. We have some exceptionally talented students here. At the end of the day, that is what a liberal arts institution ought to do. Mary Washington does it extremely well. That is what I will miss.

—Jessica Masulli and Anne Elder compiled this report.

Viewpoints

Written by Bullet Staff
Drawn by Eric Steigleider

WHAT
CAN YOU
DO IN 18
MONTHS?

...Have two
children...

...Get an associate's
Degree...

...Be president of
UMW...



Hample Sample Leaves Much to Be Desired

By THOMAS BOWMAN
Assistant Viewpoints Editor

Friday, Feb. 19, started as any other day. I went to all my classes and saw all my friends just as I always do. By nightfall, however, I received an e-mail that turned my world upside-down. As most of us are aware, that e-mail was a notification to the students that President Judy Hample was resigning, effective June 30. As a first-year student, I admit that I don't know much about Hample. But seeing as she's been the President of Mary Washington for only two years, not very many people do.

Hample's two-year presidency has been marked with controversy. In her first year, she was absent from the university more than any other president in our 102-year history. In the fall of 2009 she filed a false report during a safety-walk. And finally, after an anonymous tip to the Division of State Internal Audit, she is being investigated for the \$28,000 dollar bookshelves she purchased for Brompton, the president's house.

My brush with Hample has left me questioning how qualified she is as a University President. Her Bachelor of Arts degree is in communications, so I have trouble believing poor communication skills are the reason for her negative press relations. Could it possibly be that her actions are the problem instead?

According to the *Bullet* and the *Free Lance-Star*, Hample has repeatedly refused to release the police records of "the safety-walk scandal." She attributes this refusal to the advice of her legal counsel. If the misdemeanor charges against her were dropped, what is so secretive that they can't be released to the press under the Freedom of Information Act?

As a community, students and faculty are all affected by her resignation. We have a right to know what prompted it. According to a *Richmond Times-Dispatch* quote attributed to George Farrar, the associate vice-president of university relations, her resignation was the result of "a mutual decision" between her and the Board of Visitors.

Most of the reasons she could give in this situation would be acceptable—if she would only cite why she was leaving. Until she does, we have the right to assume it was because she could not handle the job and its pressures.

From what I understand, Hample was hired to lead the University through a period of transition. Resigning after 18 months is not leadership—it's quitting. Along with her predecessor, William Frawley, Hample will go down as a prime example of what not to do when you're the president of the University of Mary Washington.

When the Going Gets Tough, the "Tough" Get Going...Literally

Ever since I was in preschool, teachers, parents and cat posters in the guidance counselor's office have drilled it into my head to "hang in there," "finish what you start," and "never be a quitter." Today, as a new and anxiety-ridden resident of the Real World, I find myself a recent graduate of a university currently run by a quitter.

President Judy Hample has reversed 17 years of public education's efforts to motivate me. Apparently, quitting is actually fine, as long as in the press release you half-heartedly assure those who are counting on you that you "especially enjoyed" the opportunity to work with them. That cat featured on my guidance counselor's poster has probably lost its grip by now.

Hample's sudden resignation reminded me of another glass-ceiling-breaker who chose to step down. Last August, Sarah Palin stunned politicos and plumbbers alike by announcing her resignation as governor of Alaska, with 18 months of her term

Where in the World is Hample San Diego?

Part Deux

In case you have not heard, a late Friday evening e-mail announced to the Mary Washington community that President Judy Hample has decided to leave the University following the 2009-2010 school year to "pursue other academic interests." As you walk across the

Fredericksburg campus

right now

and the topic of President Hample's resignation arises, a diversity of emotions can be observed. Some are surprised and some are not, surprised at all. Some are disappointed and others are elated.

Most of this year's graduating seniors have seen two presidents and an interim leave the University. It's becoming routine, like midterms or Spring Break. They've experienced a firing, and now they've experienced a mysterious resignation.

If this year's seniors have learned nothing else in their time at Mary Washington, they've learned two very different ways that someone can leave their job in the professional world.

Among the many questions that President Hample's resignation announcement has prompted, one of the most important is what is going to happen next. Surely the University will not return to the same system of presidential search that brought us our past two short-lived ambassadors. What will the search committee and hired consultants do differently this time to ensure some administrative stability? Whatever it is, they owe it to the faculty, staff, students and the good name of the school to do it right this time.

Worse, the university has lost long-serving administrators under President Hample. Since Hample was hired, two senior university administrators have announced their retirement. One of them, former Dean of Student Affairs Bemie Chirico, said he didn't want to retire when he announced he was leaving in January 2009.

"I wasn't ready to leave Mary Washington," Chirico said. "Hample is the sole rea-

son I retired." The other, Executive Vice President Rick Hurley, as of this week reversed plans to retire at the end of the year.

Does Hurley's decision to return mean Hample had some bearing on his decision? Will Hurley pursue the presidency? Will

swers to these questions would be a lot clearer if Hample would give us some indication as

to why she's leaving.

Even though students, particularly seniors, are used to this kind of thing by now, we'd like to know what's going on. The sad thing is that this kind of opacity on the part of the administration is par-for-the-course under Hample.

Provost Jay Harper recently told the *Bullet*, "I honestly don't think anything significant will change for the students."

Whether Provost Jay Harper thinks the university president's actions have any bearing on the students or not, the reputation of the school is something that, believe it or not, has a bearing on our lives post-graduation. A school known for administrative disagreements, indecision, silence and a high turnover rate doesn't exactly improve our image.

The first step to improving relations is to open up the hiring process. Though Bill Frawley turned out to be the flop of the century, making him available in a public forum during the search was a good idea. Hample, on the other hand, seemed to drop out of the sky. One day we didn't have a president; the next day, we did. We know choosing a president is a hard process, but it's a good idea to put them on the spot to begin with, because it's their job to handle pressure.

Whether you're happy or sad that Hample's leaving, it's disappointing that this is the legacy of our school over the last four years. In reference to Harper's statement, we'd like to go on record in saying that we don't feel that way at all. We are the students, we care, and it matters to us.

Staff Editorial



Edward Russell

Russell was unanimously picked as the first president of the State Normal and Industrial School for Women at Fredericksburg. For the first two years, he focused on construction of Monroe, formally known as Russell Hall, and Willard Hall. Russell resigned due to health issues in 1919.



Morgan Combs

During Combs' presidency, enrollment and academic standards increased. He also earned himself the title of "the president who built the place" by overseeing construction of Seabrook, Ball, Custis, Madison and Westmoreland. The campus expanded to include Brompton, the president's home. In 1955, Combs was voted out of office, and then died of leukemia only six months later.



1919-1928

1929-1955

1955-1974

1908-1919



Algernon Chandler

Chandler moved from a Latin professor, to a dean, to president. Under his presidency, the school became known as Fredericksburg State Teachers School, a female counterpart to the all-male University of Virginia. The school grew from 110 students to over 500. Students living on campus during this time had lights out at 10:45 p.m. and all weekend dates had to end by 10 p.m. Chandler died suddenly at age 58.



Grellet Simpson

Simpson was a strong advocate of a liberal arts education during his 18-year presidency. Simpson eliminated Saturday classes, abolished the strict dress code, permitted drinking and smoking on campus, and allowed students to leave their dorms freely. Under his presidency, the school became desegregated and coed. He retired in 1974.

A History of the Presidency

Mary Washington's Eight Presidents During the Last 102 Years



Prince Woodard

Under Woodard, the male population grew from 102 to 200. He established a men's dormitory and intercollegiate sports. He also founded the Center for Historic Preservation in 1980 and the Foundation, as a means of accepting donations. He worked to improve faculty salaries and limit the growth of the school. Woodard died in 1982, after a three-month absence for open-heart surgery.



William Frawley

Frawley came to UMW in 2006, after many years of experience at University of Delaware and George Washington University. In April 2007, Frawley was arrested twice in 48 hours on three charges related to drunk driving. Frawley was fired, and in December 2007, the *Washington Post* published an editorial written by Frawley criticizing the BOV's response.



The April 12, 2007 issue of the *Bullet* announcing Frawley's arrest.

1982-2006

2006-2007

2008-2010



William Anderson

Anderson was the youngest president to ever serve. More than \$120 million were spent to improve the campus, including the library, science center, alumni center, four residence halls and the apartments. Anderson was actively involved in the Fredericksburg community. His work led to UMW's being recognized in the top 10 percent nationally for admissions selectivity.



Anderson helping to raise the new UMW flag in Jefferson Square on July 1, 2004



Judy Hamble

After Rick Hurley served as interim president for a year, Hamble came to UMW in 2008. As the first female president, she focused on promoting a broad array of initiatives for the school's growth, titled the Strategic Plan. Lee Hall, featuring a one-stop student services, was completed. Hamble hired the first university provost, Jay Harper, as well as hiring many new top administrators.